

# SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Howe Hall Arts Infused Magnet School (AIMS)  
 Berkeley County School District  
 Grades: PK-5 Enrollment: 420  
 Principal: Christopher D. Swetckie  
 Superintendent: Dr. Rodney Thompson  
 Board Chair: Doug Cooper

## PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on [www.ed.sc.gov](http://www.ed.sc.gov) and [www.eoc.sc.gov](http://www.eoc.sc.gov) as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		ESEA/FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING SYSTEM	
			General Performance	Closing the Gap	ESEA Grade	Accountability Indicator
2012	Excellent	Excellent	TBD	TBD	A	N/A
2011	Excellent	Excellent	Gold	Gold	Met	N/A
2010	Excellent	Excellent	Gold	Gold	Met	N/A

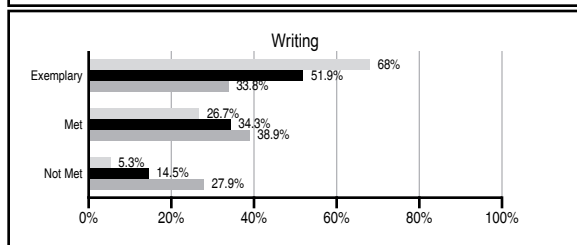
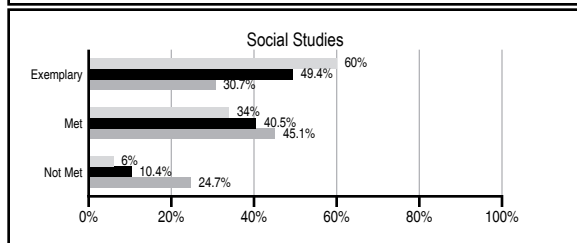
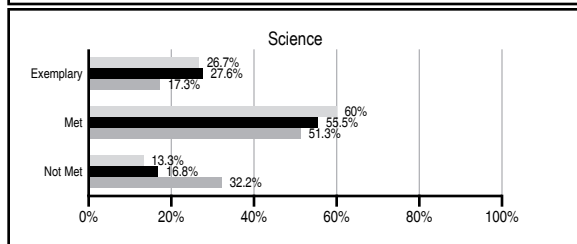
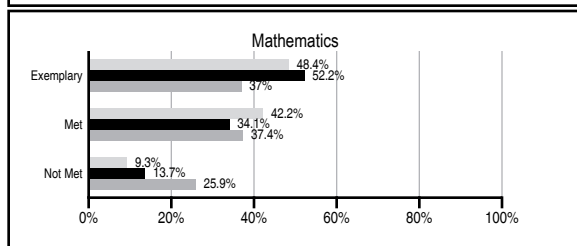
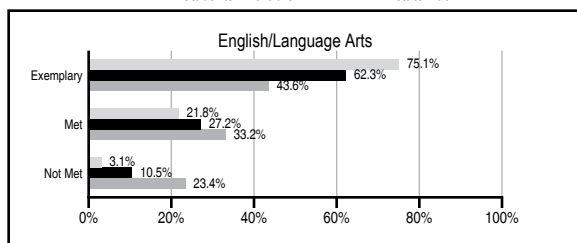
## ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS\*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
22	3	0	0	0

\* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/07/2012. Schools with Students Like Ours are Elementary Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

## PASS PERFORMANCE

Our School Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours Elementary schools statewide



## NAEP PERFORMANCE\*

\* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.



## SC PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

### Abbreviations Key

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample TBD To be determined

Howe Hall Arts Infused Magnet School (AIMS)  
[Berkeley County School District]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n=420)				
Retention rate	1.7%	Up from 0.0%	0.9%	1.0%
Attendance rate	97.8%	Up from 97.3%	97.0%	96.6%
Served by gifted and talented program	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
With disabilities other than speech	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Older than usual for grade	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=26)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	84.6%	Up from 76.0%	68.4%	63.0%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Teachers returning from previous year	91.9%	Up from 91.0%	91.3%	88.7%
Teacher attendance rate	96.3%	Up from 95.6%	96.1%	95.1%
Average teacher salary*	\$49,025	Up 3.9%	\$50,105	\$47,210
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Professional development days/teacher	7.4 days	Down from 8.3 days	10.5 days	10.5 days
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	Down from 3.0	6.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	23.3 to 1	Up from 22.8 to 1	21.5 to 1	20.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	93.4%	Up from 91.8%	91.5%	90.5%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	Up from 98.3%	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$7,061	Down 5.4%	\$6,863	\$7,247
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	51.2%	Down from 54.4%	69.0%	68.2%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	50.1%	Down from 51.8%	68.4%	65.7%
ESEA composite index score	98.3	N/A	98.4	91.9

\* Length of contract = 185+ days.  
\*\* Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with learning environment	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	N/A	N/A	N/A
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	N/A	N/A	N/A

\*Only students at the highest elementary school grade level at this school and their parents were included.

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REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Howe Hall Arts Infused Magnet School is a nationally recognized elementary school serving the Berkeley County community. Opening in 2002, HHA consistently offers children unparalleled instruction that addresses multiple intelligences by creating lessons that merge South Carolina arts and academic standards. The continued belief that success is obtainable by every student forces innovation and creativity in the introduction and re-enforcement of South Carolina elementary standards. Since the schools' inception, HHA has achieved Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). Howe Hall AIMS consistently scores higher than district and state averages on the Palmetto Achievement of State Standards (PASS) and South Carolina Arts Assessment Program (SCAAP) tests.

There are two strategic plans in place at HHA that guide the direction of the school: the School Renewal Plan, an action plan to improve school wide academic performance, and the Fine Arts Strategic Plan, which maintains the focus on quality arts-infused lessons. The teachers and staff at this nationally acclaimed Creative Ticket Campus are equipped and motivated to keep the arts in the forefront as students are engaged in a rigorous academic curriculum. Students at Howe Hall AIMS attend weekly classes for visual arts, music, drama, dance and Spanish. In addition, the fine arts and classroom teachers create and present arts-infused lessons with a team-teaching approach. These lessons are based on South Carolina State Standards but are taught through the eyes of an artist. Students apply arts skills as they work to master the academic standards. This unique feature is one of the many aspects that makes Howe Hall AIMS such a dynamic institution of learning.

Another unique feature of Howe Hall AIMS is the exploratory classes that students in grades 3-5 attend weekly. These classes, chosen by the student, provide for greater appreciation and enrichment of visual arts, media, and music. These classes include steel drums, ballet, chorus, clay, tap, modern dance, puppetry, costume design, digital media, and more. The campus curriculum is also supplemented by regular visits from artists-in-residence and performance groups that range from storytellers and folk singers to Chinese acrobats and puppeteers.

Attending Howe Hall AIMS offers opportunities for students to experience the thrill of performing for live audiences throughout the year. The school has two major performances, a spring and winter musical, with audience attendance ranging from 800 to 1100 and growing each year. Students also have smaller grade level and exploratory programs including dance, chorus, and steel drums. Participation in various community art shows, contests, and charitable organizations where not only students' artwork but civic responsibilities are featured is a tradition at Howe Hall AIMS.

The most valuable and unique aspect of Howe Hall AIMS includes the staff and parent body. Being a public school without attendance boundaries that gains its student body through a lottery process contributes to a culture of excellence. There are no auditions or prerequisites; it is simply the 'luck of the draw'. Each year, Howe Hall AIMS receives about 500 applications for only 40 to 50 openings. If selected to attend Howe Hall AIMS, transportation to and from school must be provided by the parents. This commitment fosters a family environment with mutual goals for student success.

The student scores at AIMS are among the highest in the state on both the PASS and SCAAP assessments. This